

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /067 W
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P 211859Z FEB 78
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9450
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
FPA WASHDC
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 01775

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: LONG-TERM DEFENSE
PROGRAM (LTDP)

REF: STATE 042103 DTG 170127Z FEB 78

1. WE WELCOME THE INFORMATION IN THE REFTEL AND THE
INSTRUCTIONS TO DRAW ON THAT INFORMATION IN ANY DISCUSSION
OF THE LTDP. FURTHER, WE BELIEVE THAT A LETTER, ALONG
THE LINES OF THE REFTEL, FROM SECRETARY BROWN TO HIS
DPC COLLEAGUES WOULD BE USEFUL.

2. TO DATE, AS THE REFTEL INDICATES, THERE HAS BEEN
CONTINUING INFORMAL CONTACT BETWEEN NATIONAL AUTHORITIES
AND THE NATO TASK FORCES. IN SOME CASES THIS CONTACT
HAS BEEN AT HIGH LEVELS IN MILITARY STAFFS AND MAY REPEAT
MAY HAVE INVOLVED A DEGREE OF INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.
BEFORE LONG, HOWEVER, CAPITALS WILL BE CALLED UPON TO
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REGISTER FORMAL, NATIONAL POSITIONS ON THE PROPOSALS IN
THE LTDP FINAL TASK FORCE REPORTS.

3. IF TIME PERMITTED, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BETTER TO
HAVE SOME FIRM INDICATIONS OF WHAT NATIONAL RESPONSES
WERE GOING TO BE, RATHER THAN ANTICIPATE THE NEED FOR
THE LETTERS, AND TO SEND LETTERS SELECTIVELY, TAILORING

THEM TO THE PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES IN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. IN OUR VIEW, HOWEVER, TIME WILL NOT PERMIT SUCH A DELIBERATE COURSE.

4. WE RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT THE TEXT OF SECRETARY BROWN'S LETTER BE SENT BY TELEGRAM, FOR DELIVERY BY POSTS TO ALL DPC MINISTERS OF DEFENSE ABOUT MARCH 1, 1978, THE DUE DATE FOR THE FINAL REPORTS. THIS TIMING WILL ALLOW THE ALLIES TO TAKE THE LETTER INTO ACCOUNT IN FRAMING THEIR INITIAL VIEWS FOR THE MARCH 8 EWG MEETING AND PROVIDE TIME FOR ITS EFFECTS TO FILTER MORE WIDELY PRIOR TO THE REINFORCED EWG MEETING MARCH 21 TO 23. WHILE THE LETTERS WOULD, OF NECESSITY NEED TO BE SIMILAR, THEY COULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE MOST OBVIOUS DIFFERING CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH AS THOSE PARTICULAR TO TURKEY AND PORTUGAL. THEY COULD ALSO REFLECT ANY UNIQUE COMMENTS ON REFTTEL FROM POSTS. GLITMAN

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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TAGS: MPOL, NATO
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